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SOUTHERN MARKSMAN.

WHEN THE PEOPLE CEASE TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES, THEN THEIR LIBERTIES ARE GONE.

VOL. I.

CLINTON, MI. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1839.

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MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE.

From the Mississippiian.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1839.
SENATE.

On motion, the orders of the day were taken up; and

The bill to provide for the Internal Improvement of the State being first in order—

Mr. Tucker addressed the Senate, at some length, in support of the bill. He said he hoped Senators would weigh well the importance of connecting the Gulf and the interior streams. Though the principal line could not be brought home to the immediate interest of every section of the State, yet indirectly every section is deeply interested in that line. Establish that line, and collateral ones will follow. The great staple of our State requires that we should improve every opportunity of facilitating the exportation and importation of our State. He insisted that no measure, interest, or policy, had importance to be put in competition with internal improvements. The Union Bank already begins to raise its head; but, dangerous as it may become, he hoped it might not yet have acquired strength and venom sufficient to defeat this great interest of the State.

Mr. Alsbury addressed the Senate in support of the bill. He took an enlarged and extensive view, both as to the utility and the practicability of internal improvements. He disclaimed any design against the sale of the Union Bank bonds. He said that, on the contrary, the law drawn with a view to that object; and it is a great mistake to suppose that the friends of this bill are hostile to the Union Bank.

The aspect of things strongly indicates hostility from the friends of the Union Bank to this bill. It is urged that 6 per cent is too high a rate of interest on the bonds. If the friends of the bank are not hostile to this bill and to internal improvement, why did they not move to amend the bill by striking out six and inserting five, while it was in com. of the whole, instead of waiting for the final passage of the bill to urge such objections? He said he was not opposed to the Union Bank. When the report of the committee is received it will be time enough for me to give the Bank a full and fair consideration. I may or may not be found opposed to that institution.

Mr. Farrar was opposed to the bill. He said that this bill was more local and sectional than the gentleman seemed to think. Mr. F. said he was not opposed to any practicable system of internal improvement, but, for the present, the sectional character of the bill, and the inevitable conflict in the sale of the Union Bank bonds, would compel him to vote against the bill. But he assured the friends of the bill that he would cordially co-operate in any measure of internal improvement which might be general and practicable.

Mr. Haley supported the bill. He made a most happy reference to the improvements in other States; and, as to the interest on the bonds, he said Madison county could pay the interest, and never feel it. He wished Mississippi to have fair play in the transportation of her staple.

Mr. Bingham opposed the bill in a speech delivered in his usual forcible and gentlemanly manner; still insisting that his opposition to the bill was not from sectional causes. He urged, with great force, the fact that canals and other water-carriage has an advantage over rail-roads. If the bill had those general and applicable features which its title imports, he would be in favor of it; but, as it stood, he was compelled to oppose it.

Mr. Hadley said it was strange to him to hear gentlemen opposed to the bill all declare themselves in favor of internal improvements, and yet they could not support the bill, because it was so sectional. Why have these gentlemen not amended this bill, if it was amendable?—No—can't support the bill, and won't amend—and why? This bill proposes to connect the Gulf of Mexico and the Tennessee river, the Mississippi river and all the intermediate streams together. Is this local?—is this sectional legislation? The objection lies deeper! As to the sale of the Bank bonds and Internal Improvement bonds, there was no force in the objection. Mr. H. said he was in favor of this system of internal improvement and was anxious to pass the bill and submit it to the people of Mississippi, for he was not afraid to confide in their judgment.

Mr. Grayson addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill. Mr. G. insisted that the real object of the bill was sectional and local, disguise it as the gentleman may. This bill proposes to pledge the faith of the State for five millions of dollars to be expended in establishing a rail-road which the senator knows but that it may require five times that sum. Will the gentleman vote away five millions without first knowing that they may not be called on to vote away fifteen millions to finish the work?—Mr. G. urged the propriety of appointing commissioners and engineers to make a survey of the state, and report thereon, and thus let the Legislature act efficiently and wisely. I wish it distinctly understood that I am not opposed to the principle but the peculiar features of the bill. I will support a measure for raising fifteen millions of dollars for a general system of internal improvement. The embarrassed condition of

the State requires that we should weigh well the measure that is to sink us deeper. So far as the constitution will warrant we should shape our legislation for the relief of the people.

Mr. Walton addressed the Senate supporting the bill. Mr. W. urged the necessity of passing the bill. We are, as it were, between 2 fires, New Orleans and Mobile, liable to be consumed by both. Mr. W. said gentlemen seem to have forgotten that it is within our memory that when our citizens go to either of these places they were liable to get into the Mississippi Hotel, commonly called the Cala Boose. Let us have a mart of trade within our own State. I am not afraid of the intelligence of the people, and am therefore, for passing the bill and submit it to the people.

The question was then taken and the bill passed.
The post-note resolution was passed—yes 17, nays 10.

The resolution, as adopted, is as follows: Resolved, by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, That the Mississippi Union Bank be recommended to issue post-notes, payable in one and two years, bearing interest at the rate of not more than six per centum per annum from date; and that the President and Directors be required to put the several Branches into operation by the first day of May next.

HOUSE.

A bill was reported, from the Judiciary Committee, to prevent betting on elections, and to suppress gaming; which was read, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Smith, of Amite, offered a resolution founded upon a clause in the report of the Auditor on the Planters' Bank—requiring the Auditor to attend the House this evening at 4 o'clock, to answer such questions as might be propounded to him concerning said institution.

The ayes and noes being called for upon this resolution, it was adopted by a vote of 41 to 38.

The special order for three o'clock, viz: the resolution calling for a committee to investigate the official conduct of James Hagan, one of the Bank Commissioners, was taken up.

Messrs. Foote, Hancock, Stewart, and several other members, addressed the House on the merits of the resolution.

Mr. Brown, of Copiah, offered a resolution rescinding the order of the House to send the letter of the President of the Union Bank, which was adopted, and the resolution calling for a committee, together with the amendments offered to the same, were laid upon the table.

The hour of 4 having arrived—

The House proceeded to examine the Auditor of Public Accounts, in conformity with a resolution passed by the House; but, before any important questions were asked.

On motion of Mr. Gholson, Mr. A. B. Saunders, the Auditor of Public Accounts was discharged from the custody of the House.

SATURDAY, FEB. 2, 1839.

SENATE.

Upon the orders of the day, the bill to amend the act of incorporation of the town of Kosciusko, was called up; and an amendment, by way of rider, to prohibit the sale of ardent spirits by a less quantity than one gallon, was adopted, and the bill passed.

The bill to prohibit unlawful banking was called up, and after some discussion upon it, and various amendments were proposed, it was referred to a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Walker offered an amendment, as a substitute for the original bill, and addressed the Senate in support of his motion.

Mr. Farrar addressed the Senate in opposition to the original bill. He said that he was in favor of a remedy equal to the evil, but he was not for putting down good, solvent, and useful banking institutions—He referred to the benefits derived from the company of Yeatman and Woods of Nashville, and Stephen Girard of Philadelphia.

Mr. Tucker offered an amendment having for its object to prohibit the issuing notes or ship-plasters of less denomination than \$5.

Mr. Tucker said he was as much opposed to securities bank paper as any gentleman in the Senate; but he had constituents interested in an individual or unauthorized Bank, and they had rights to be protected as well as chartered banks or private individuals. The Legislature has no right to prohibit the making of contracts.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Green, in support of the bill, and opposed to the amendment, adverted to the Aberdeen and various other unauthorized banking companies, and of the totally worthless character of their paper. He said the objection did not, in fact, stop short of some of the incorporations of the State, which had been circulated, and now might be bought at a middling low rate, and had inflicted upon the people an injury which they will not soon recover from.

The amendments being rejected, the bill was reported and agreed to.

It was then moved that the bill be put upon its final passage.

Mr. Tucker renewed his amendment, and it was again rejected by a vote of 19 to 7.

Mr. Walker offered an amendment, as a substitute for the bill; and, the yeas and nays being called for, it was lost, by a vote of 14 to 11.

The motion was then renewed for putting the bill upon its passage; which, upon the call of the yeas and nays, was decided in the affirmative—yeas 17, nays 9—So the bill passed.

Upon the passage of the bill—
Mr. Walker and Mr. Boyd asked and obtained leave to enter their protest against the bill.

A resolution was passed, instructing our Senators and Representatives to obtain, if possible, the establishment of a mail route from Natchez to Jackson, via Gallatin.

The bill to amend the act of incorporation of the town of Kosciusko, was amended so as that one quart instead of one gallon of ardent spirits may be sold.

HOUSE.

The bill to prevent GAMBLING and BETTING on ELECTIONS, was PASSED.

A bill from the Senate, to prevent unauthorized banking, was read the first time.

Mr. Foote said he would move to reject said bill, for reasons which he went on to give at some length. He said it was clearly unconstitutional; and read several parts of the constitution, to prove the position. He maintained that all had an equal right to bank; and said, if you deny the people at large that right, you will at once make all chartered banks exclusive; and he would tell the friends of the banking system, that, so soon as the people began to know that chartered banks were monopolies, endowed with exclusive privileges, such as could not be enjoyed by the people, the whole banking and credit system would fall into irretrievable ruin.

Mr. F. said he would give an instance of the power of these chartered institutions. Six years ago the county of Hinds was prosperous, happy, and out of debt; at that time the adjoining county of Rankin was little better than a howling wilderness—but soon the Brandon Bank is established, and the county of Rankin is made to blossom like the Rose! Mr. F. called upon gentlemen to pause and reflect upon the provisions of the bill before them—it involved the most important considerations. There was much science to cultivate about banking, and it would be well for this Legislature to deliberate upon the propriety of a general banking law. He maintained that the currency was like a great inverted pyramid, and if let alone would regulate itself. He said he would withdraw his motion to reject the bill, and let it go on to its regular readings, so that members might have a chance to investigate its provisions.

Mr. Lane was in favor of the bill. He was tired of being shaved on real estate bank notes.

Mr. Gholson moved that the bill be read a second time forthwith, by its title.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1839.

SENATE.

The bill to authorize the Governor to commute the punishment of death to confinement in the penitentiary, for negro stealing, was called up, and passed.

The bill introduced by Mr. Farrar, of Wilkinson, to abolish imprisonment for debt, with an amendment by the Senator from Hinds, passed the Senate, by a vote of yeas 12, nays 8.

HOUSE.

The Select Committee on the Public Arms reported a bill authorizing the Governor to employ some person to repair the same, and appropriating the sum of \$5000 for that purpose.

On motion of Mr. Mellen, the bill was read twice forthwith, and committed to a committee of the Whole House; and after reading the bill, the committee rose and reported the same without amendment, and it was then read a third time and passed.

The bill from the orders of the day, to suppress tippling-houses, and to discourage and prevent the odious vice of drunkenness, came up for its third reading.

After some debate on a motion to recommit the bill—

The question was taken by yeas and nays on the passage of the same, and it was carried, by a vote of yeas 40, nays 25.

The bill to provide for certain internal improvements, and the sale of five millions of State Bonds to facilitate the completion of the same, from the Senate, was read a third time, committed to a Com. of the Whole forthwith, and read by sections.

Mr. King, of Rankin, offered an amendment, allowing future Legislatures the right to alter and amend the said bill.

The amendment offered by Mr. King was adopted.

The question being taken on the passage of the bill as amended, it was carried by a vote of 50 to 18.

TUESDAY, FEB. 5, 1839.

SENATE.

The bill to regulate tavern rates was called up; when several amendments were offered and rejected; and the bill being put upon its passage, was rejected, by a vote of yeas 12, nays 13.

The bill relative to tippling houses, &c., was called up and committed to a Com. of the Whole.

[While the bill was under consideration in the committee, several amendments were proposed—among them some for striking out quart, and inserting barrel of thirty-three gallons; which failed.]

An amendment was then offered, to reduce the penalty of the bond from \$10,000 to \$1,000—lost.]

Mr. Alsbury addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill. He said he hoped that the Legislature would not undertake to exercise such control over the morals of Mississippi. If they do, it will be a species of tyranny unknown in the government of the Autocrat of Russia. The law, as it now stands, provides sufficient restraints upon inns and tavern-keepers. They render themselves liable to heavy penalties if they allow any disorderly conduct about their houses.

Mr. Wall, in opposition to the bill, said he believed that the bill, if it became a law, would be productive of more vice, corruption, and perjury, than all the measures ever adopted in the State. Countless indeed will be the evils to result from such restrictive laws. The Republican spirit of Mississippi freemen will view this law with disgust and contempt. Few, if any, worthy, capable, and deserving men, will be found, who will hold any of the offices which will require them to exercise that sort of scrutiny into the private life of their fellow-citizens, which this bill requires.

A motion was then made to strike out the 7th and 8th sections; which was not agreed to.

Mr. Tucker offered an amendment, to make it 120 days, instead of 60 days, before the act shall take effect.

Mr. Tucker said, if the bill passed he wished those for whose benefit this law is intended should have ample time to cool off; and he thought 120 days little enough time for red-hot boilers to cool. Besides, said he, it should be remembered that we must drink up the whole stock now on hand; and that could not be done in less than 120 days, and all be cool.

The committee, after making some amendments, reported the same, and it was received and agreed to.

The bill was then read as amended, and passed—yeas 15, nays 12.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.

From the report of Adjutant General Price, we learn that there are now twenty-nine effective and fully organized volunteer companies in the State, composed of Cavalry, Infantry, Riflemen, and Artillerists, fifteen companies of which have been organized within the past year. They are all represented to be in a high state of discipline—composed as they are of the first young men in the State, ready at a moment's warning to repel invasion from a foreign foe, or suppress the insurrection of a domestic one. The Adjutant General commends the "creation in each brigade in the State of a regiment of volunteer Infantry companies, and one of cavalry," and declares that they would soon be filled up with the flower and chivalry of the State.—Vicksburg Whig.

DIRECT TRADE.

There was a meeting in Jackson, on the day before yesterday, to nominate Delegates to attend the Commercial Convention to be held in Charleston in the month of April next. Gen. Quitman presided; and Gov. Hayne, who had arrived in town the day previous, addressed the meeting by request. He made a very able and eloquent speech, illustrating the importance of a Direct Trade, and of Southern union on this subject. He alluded to the effort of South Carolina in establishing rail roads—spoke of the bill of the distinguished Senator from Mississippi, (Mr. Walker,) to connect Charleston and Vicksburg, by means of a rail-road, in terms of high commendation.—Mississippian.

THE NEUTRALITY LAW.—Our readers are already apprized that meetings have been held at different places on our Northern borders, expressive of a determination to sustain the public authorities in their efforts to prevent invasions of the British provinces from our territory.—These meetings were justly hailed as evidence of returning sanity and sagacity on that frontier. We regret to perceive, on the other hand, in the published proceedings of meetings of an opposite character, held here and there, proofs of unsoundness in public opinion to such an extent as to be inconceivable, if we had not the evidence of it before our eyes. At a public meeting, for example, held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 29th of last month, we had, among sundry resolutions adopted, the following:

"Resolved, That whenever a Government adjoining to the United States shall treat as criminals respectable citizens, for attempting to introduce the principles of equal rights and self-government into their country, the cruelty exercised towards them is an insult to our Government, for which our Government should hold them responsible.

At the same meeting at which this resolution was adopted, we observe that it was determined to memorialize Congress to REPEAL THE NEUTRALITY LAW, or, essentially to modify it. Some memorials to the same effect have already been presented in Congress. We have placed the above resolution conspicuously in our columns, that, if there exist any disposition to yield the prayer of this memorial, the Members of Congress may know how INTENSELY PATRIOTIC are the views of some at least of the memorialists.

In the Ohio Legislature Anti-Abolition resolutions have been adopted.

From the London Correspondent of the National Intelligencer
London, Nov. 30, 1838.

Deeper and deeper still, as the meeting Parliament approaches, becomes the interest of the various questions demanding immediate attention from the Legislature. Popular demonstrations are hourly assuming a more determined and minatory aspect in Great Britain and Ireland; and unless the greatest caution and the most active vigilance be used by our government, England will be plunged into an abyss of troubles and misfortunes, from which she will not be able to emerge in haste. The embers of the partially extinguished insurrection in Canada are ready to burst out into the flames of civil war; the convulsed state of Ireland, the wretched and impoverished condition of the working classes in England, will produce terrible effects, if the most judicious and vigorous remedies be not instantly applied. Nothing but the most scrupulous and rigid observance of the rights and privileges which the British Constitution confers, can save the British empire from dismemberment and bloodshed. We are on the brink of a volcano, and one false step might overwhelm irredeemably our country, our altars, and our homes. These, be assured, are not mere sounds; they are solemn truths; they are what the signs of the times justify me in stating.

The greatest reliance is placed in the honor, integrity, and fidelity of the United States Government, that it will exert to the utmost its power and control in suppressing any attempt that may be made by Americans to assist the disaffected portion of the Canadians. But, it is understood here, that if American citizens have made up their minds to aid the Canadians, it will be very difficult for the United States Government to check them. It is true, the hour of their separation may be prolonged by our keeping up a standing army, at an immense expense, but it is the opinion of longer and wiser heads than mine that, eventually, the Canadas will cease to form a part of the dominions of England. It would not be just to impute all the blame to the Canadians, and no man in his senses can deny that the mother country has acted unkindly towards them. They, as well as others of her colonial possessions, have been neglected, and their remonstrances disregarded. The statesmen of England, it is notorious, have never seemed to bestow a thought upon the welfare of the colonies; they have considered that all the people have had to do was, to obey!—Such has been their mischievous policy.

The Paris papers are busy speculating upon the persons who are to succeed the Ministers of War, Finance, and Public Instruction, who are to retire. The commerce says, that the grand difficulty will be to find statesmen disposed, under present circumstances, to fill their places.—The same journal asserts, with confidence, that the French Government has ordered a corps of 40,000 men to assemble on the Northern frontier of France. For what specific purpose, it does not say.

A serious Poor Law riot has taken place at Todmorden, in the north of England. A person named Ingham refused to pay the rate. The parish authorities proceeded, with a horse and cart, to levy on his goods, when a hand-bell was heard to ring outside the house, which quickly brought together a vast concourse of people. A number of men who were employed by the Manchester and Leeds Railway Company left their work, and flew to the scene of riot. They were quickly followed by the hands from four or five cotton mills in the neighborhood, and in a short time the house of the recusant was surrounded by several hundreds of persons of both sexes. The horse was detached from the cart, and turned into a field, and the cart itself was broken to pieces, and afterwards was set on fire and completely consumed. The constables begged to be allowed to depart without personal violence, but the multitude would listen to no parley. The owner of the house was obliged to turn them out among the incensed crowd, who tore the clothes off their backs until they were almost naked. In this situation they were compelled to run the gauntlet, hoisted and pelted most severely. Matters had now reached such a fearful height, that expresses were sent off to Rochdale for a party of horse and foot, but for whose timely arrival the constables, and all who had attempted to protect them, would have been beaten to death. The opposition to, and hatred of, the Poor Law Amendment bill are increasing every day.

From the tone of Sir John Hervey's reply to the communication of Governor Kent, some of our morning papers remark, that the boundary question is not in a state approaching to a settlement. The English people are most desirous that it should be speedily and amicably settled, and surely it must be so ere long. The United States Government have manifested the greatest forbearance in relation to the affair. It is hoped, therefore, that their patience will not be much longer taxed by our Government.

The British Navy is now reported to be in the best possible condition. Several fine ships have been added to it on a new construction. The naval armaments are well stocked with every thing necessary for the service, and able-bodied seamen are entering freely. Our dock yards have been

for some time past in a state of the most active bustle.

Mr. O'Connell has returned to Dublin, after having converted nearly the whole of the People of the four Provinces of Ireland into "Precursors." His progress has been most successful, and wherever he has appeared, his countrymen have hailed him with the most cordial applause. Several immense meetings have been held in the Corn Exchange and in other places in the city, which have been addressed by the honorable member at great length. In every speech he makes, he deprecates more and more the idea of forming an alliance with the English Radicals, for this reason, that they are led by men who advocate the employment of physical force. O'Connell will wield a mighty moral power in the ensuing session of Parliament. Whether it will have the desired or any effect upon the House of Lords, remains to be seen.

If we would preserve our liberties, let us not be too eager for wealth; we should strive for an honorable independence, but should beware of a thirst for riches which sacrifices all else to its gratification.—Money, it is true, is a great aid to prosperity and power of a country, but remember also that it has corrupting and enervating influences. What reduced nations of the olden time from their glory to weakness and slavery? Do we stand firmer? Is our course more brilliant than theirs?—If so, so it will not always be with us, if we yield up our hearts to the attainment of wealth and great possessions. Strange! emerging, as recently as we have from poverty and obscurity, that we should take such rapid strides towards luxury and effeminacy! Wealth, it is true, has dug our canals, and constructing our railroads, and built up our thriving marts. But these are not all a nation's glory. The requirements of the intellectual and moral are superior to the physical, and if these are neglected, as they cannot but be when we are so devoted to golden dreams, we do worse than commit an error—we sin.—And I would ask, if the monuments of our moral and intellectual greatness are equal to those which display our wealth and power? Are our morals any better than they were fifty years ago?—Are they as good? Depend upon it, there is too much grasping after riches; too much avarice among us. I fear that we neglect too much the substantial, to attend to the airy schemes and visionary El Dorados! It is a fact that wealth is a predominant propensity of the age. It contracts our social feelings, cramps our literary energies, and threatens to poison the streams of our prosperity. Let us act upon these startling truths, let us be up and doing! Surely, surely, my friends, it is better to live like the frugal Spartan, even with iron coin, than to perish like the miserable and voluptuous Chaldean, amid the banquet and the revel.—[Chapin.]

The 17th of July, 1834, became memorable in Madrid by one of those outbursts of frantic cruelty which throw discredit upon a whole nation, without reference to party. The populace excited to a state of alarm and madness by the cholera, which then raged in the capital, lent a favorable ear to the insinuations of secret agents, who persuaded them that the mortality was not the effect of that epidemic, but of poison which had been thrown into the fountains of the fairs. The scenes of that day, were too dreadful to be recorded. The destruction of sculptures, pictures, books, and MSS, belonging to the convents, was beyond calculation. The library of the Jesuits, which many of the works of that laborious society still remained in manuscript, was, if not altogether destroyed, deprived of its chief treasures. The convent of Saint Francis, which from the peculiar constitution of the order, its early and long connection with the Holy Land, its missions in America, in the East Indies, and in Africa, contained in its magnificent library every work concerning the history and topography of those regions, and abounded in oriental manuscripts of the greatest value, was also the scene of plunder and devastation. The archives of the order of the mercy, instituted for the redemption of christian captives from the Moors, were plundered and scattered abroad; and it was by mere good fortune that, some days afterward, a person zealous in the cause of literature, in hunting over a mass of papers which had been thrown into a heap in an obscure corner of the convent, discovered the original deed of redemption drawn by the brothers of that order for the release of the immortal Cervantes.

ELOQUENT.—An office holder, at the west who lately retired from his official duties, winds up his address on the occasion in the following eloquent manner:

Now, gentlemen, it matters not to me whether you call me skunk, 'Possum, or raccoon: I have luxuriated for a long time in the high grass of government where tall fodder has never been lacking, though I have been somewhat sacrificed by thorns and thistles, and harassed by the constant barking of political curs. My own peace and comfort require, that I now quit the field and crawl into my private burrow; and should any of you hereafter, endeavor to stir me up with a long pole as to be entirely out of my reach, I shall, to say the least of it—squall most awfully!